

Field Book of Insects. By Frank E. Lutz. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 1935. 510 pages. 100 plates. \$3.50.

This is the third edition of Doctor Lutz's authentic, well-written and popular "Field Book of Insects," and it is not usual to find these three attributes in a single book on entomology. Always having had a high regard for Doctor Lutz's entomological work and for his ability to express his ideas clearly and interestingly, I knew, without opening this third edition, that it would continue to be good so long as Doctor Lutz had anything to do with it.

But being, in some respects, a conscientious person, I opened it. I did more. I read parts of it. I even did more than this. I put my pipe down, got up out of an easy chair and rummaged through my books until I found the first edition, that was published in 1918. I found that during the sixteen years it had not grown perceptibly fatter, that its weight was still sufficient to pull an entomologist's pocket out of shape, but they are always out of shape anyhow, that its colored plates were all holding a meeting together next to the index, and that numerous typographic and textual changes had taken place. And I found, too, that the third edition, like the first, was still packed with facts, facts about collecting, about preservation, about control, about habits, food preferences, injury, identification, characteristics, and with many keys for the separation of certain common species, all presented orderly.

Although intended for non-specialists, many specialists who make a practice of being ill informed on groups outside their immediate interest, could consult Doctor Lutz's book to their advantage. But I wonder if they ever will. There are no superfluous words in this "Field Book." Practically every sentence is informative, and budding entomologists in particular could do no better than to obtain from it their early knowledge. It answers all the questions that would naturally occur to most of them. And it is "up-to-date" with respect to new facts, changes in names, and newly discovered important species.

I hope that rising generations will continue to appreciate and demand Doctor Lutz's book and that he is "all wrong" in his supposition that he will probably never again revise his "Field Book of Insects."—H. B. WEISS.